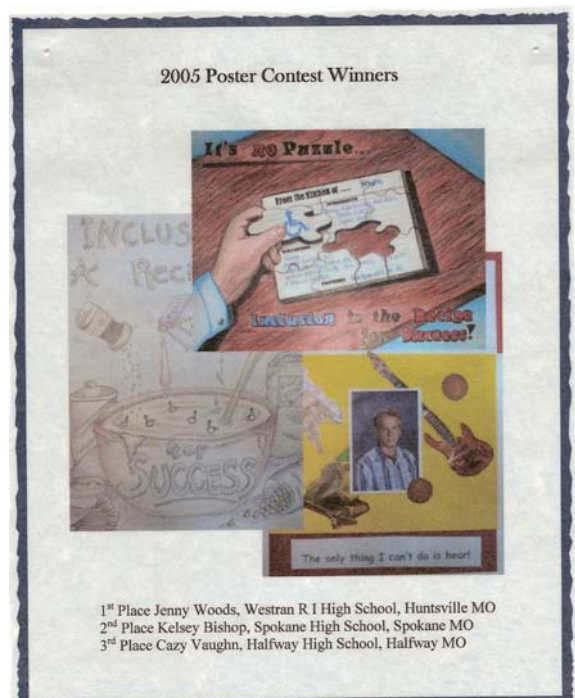


State of Missouri  
Office of Administration

**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY**



**2005 ANNUAL REPORT**



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**Photos on cover page:**

**Top left**

2005 Missouri Youth Leadership Forum participants.

**Top right**

Rebecca Harwick, CEO and President of Global Products, Inc. displays the 2005 Employer of the Year award with Robert Honan and Linda Baker (Council staff) and Stanley Brown (Council member). Also pictured are staff from The Center for Head Injury Services.

**Center left**

Executive Director Robert Honan and Linda Baker, Council staff, take a tour of The Center for Head Injury Services in St. Louis.

**Center right**

Kathleen Fagin (Council member) and Judge Richard Teitelman, pictured at the swearing in ceremony on May 26, 2005.

**Bottom left**

2005 Excellence in Universal Design and Technology winner: City of Chesterfield  
Robert Honan presents the award for Excellence in Universal Design to Mike Geisel (left) of City of Chesterfield. Mayor John Nations (right) looks on.

**Bottom right**

2005 Poster and Journalism Contest – Poster Contest Winners

State of Missouri  
Office of Administration  
**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY**

**Annual Report**

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**State of Missouri**  
**Office of Administration**  
**GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY**

## **History**

The Governor's Council on Disability traces its roots to the World War II era. In 1947, President Harry S Truman issued an Executive Order establishing the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped. This Committee was created to assist disabled WWII veterans with re-entry into the civilian workforce. In 1949 Missouri established the state Governor's Committee to share information about work-related problems facing people with disabilities. In 1994 our statute was updated to broaden our mission beyond employment, enabling the Governor's Council on Disability to become a voice for the more than one million Missourians with disabilities in all facets of life, including state government.

## **Mission**

To provide leadership and support so people with disabilities achieve inclusion and independence.

## **Vision**

A state where people with disabilities fully participate in all aspects of community life.

*The Strategic Planning Committee is currently in the process of working on revising the Vision Statement, Goals and Strategies for the Governor's Council on Disability.*

## Council Membership

- 20 members and a chairperson comprise the Council.
- The Governor appoints members.
- The appointment of the chairperson requires the advice and consent of the Missouri Senate.
- Members represent each of the nine U.S Congressional Districts.
- The majority of members are people with disabilities.
- The Governor's Council is comprised of the following committees: Executive, Finance and Development, Personnel, Strategic Planning, Advocacy; and Legislative and Programs subcommittees.

**Daniel P. Card II, Chair**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District  
St. Louis  
First Appointed: 4/19/05

**Karen Benson**  
7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Mount Vernon  
First Appointed: 10/9/01

**Stanley Brown**  
Member 11  
St. Louis  
First Appointed: 10/18/02

**Joseph Colagiovanni**  
St. Louis  
First Appointed: 9/27/05

**Edward Duff**  
7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Joplin  
First Appointed: 7/19/05

**Michael Esser**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District  
Chesterfield  
First Appointed: 10/14/05

**Kathleen Fagin**  
Member 3  
Chesterfield  
First Appointed: 4/19/05

**Mikael Fredholm**  
4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Camdenton  
First Appointed: 7/6/99

**Patricia Gallagher**  
Member 9  
Kansas City  
First Appointed: 8/20/03

**Matthew Hughes**  
8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Farmington  
First Appointed: 3/29/05

**Mary Ellen Jenison**  
Member 8  
Lee's Summit  
First Appointed: 8/9/96

**Stephanie Logan**  
6<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Columbia  
First Appointed: 10/14/99

**Todd Mayfield**  
Member 1  
Jefferson City  
First Appointed: 10/9/01

**Sarah Olson**  
Member 4  
Columbia  
First Appointed: 4/6/05

**Susan Orton**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Congressional District  
Creve Coeur  
First Appointed: 7/19/05

**Donna Pavlick**  
9<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Columbia  
First Appointed: 6/22/05

**Renee Dawn Powell**  
5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District  
Columbia  
First Appointed: 10/16/03

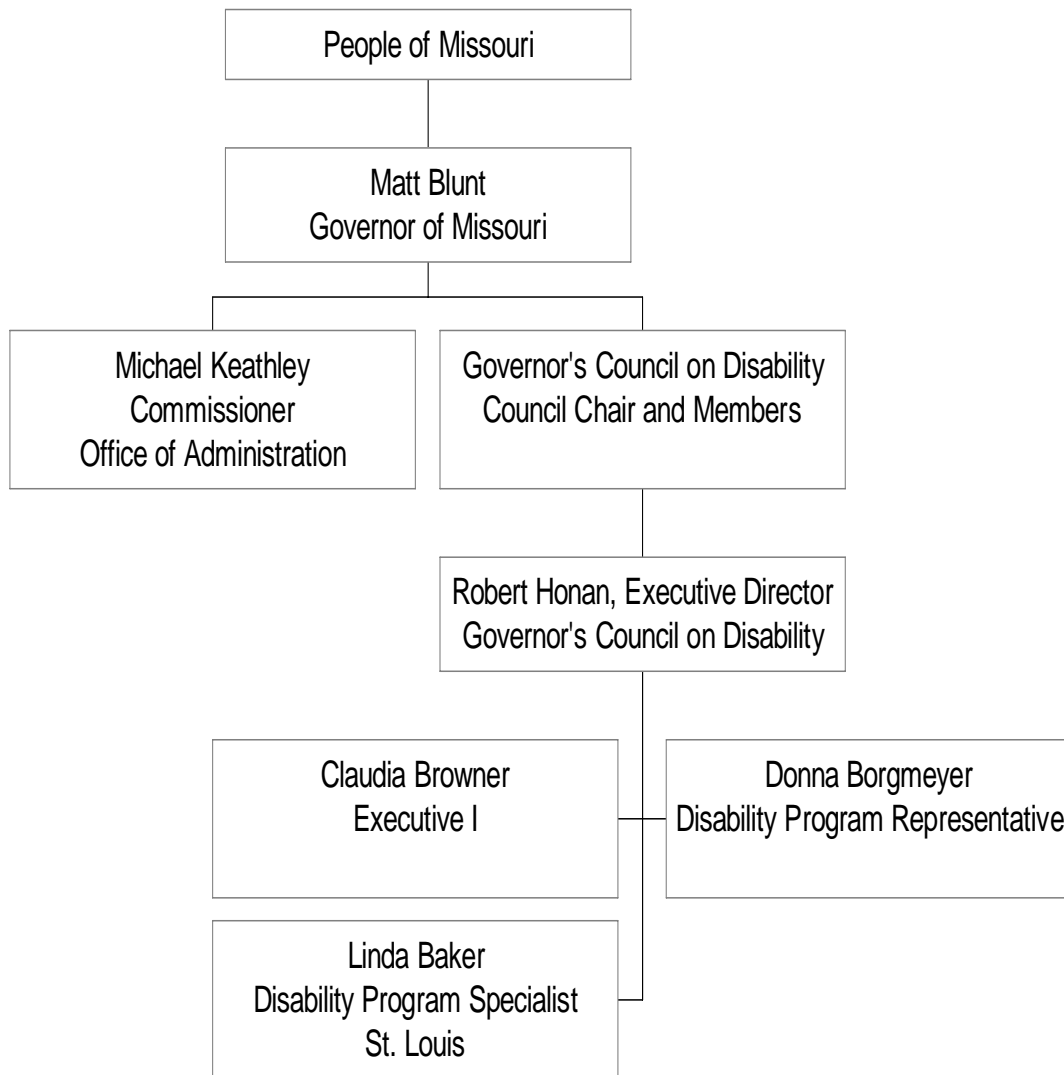
**Joseph Sartorius**  
Member 2  
St. Louis  
First Appointed: 11/8/02

**Hani Soudah**  
St. Louis  
First Appointed: 11/29/05

**Molly Tallarico**  
Member 5  
St. Louis  
First Appointed: 5/26/05

## GOVERNOR'S COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

### Organizational Structure





## Finances

The Governor's Council on Disability programs are primarily financed through General Revenue. This funding covers personnel costs and expenses for most Council activities. The Fiscal Year 2006 budget is listed below:

|                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Personnel (4 FTE):  | \$159,241        |
| Operating Expenses: | <u>\$ 37,421</u> |
|                     | \$196,662        |

At time of publication, the Council has spent \$14,135.08 in operating expenses, 38% of the FY06 budget. Expenses include supplies, travel, Council meeting expenses, and expenses on GCD programs, with the exception of the Missouri Youth Leadership Forum.

The Missouri Youth Leadership Forum is the only program that is not funded through General Revenue funds. This program is funded through a mixture of private donations, grants, and contracts. The following is a synopsis of the 2005 event.

2005 MYLF event costs: \$13,186.96

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| • University of Missouri-Columbia<br>(Lodging, meals, and conference rooms) | \$ 6,070.74         |
| • Transportation<br>(Bus transport and individual transport)                | \$ 1,573.03         |
| • Speakers fees<br>(Some travel costs included)                             | \$ 2,464.02         |
| • Printing/Supplies   | \$ 2,989.17         |
| • Audit   | <u>\$ 90.00</u>     |
| <u>Total</u>  | <u>\$ 13,186.96</u> |

Pursuant to RSMO 286.210, "The governor's council on disability may receive funds and property by gift, devise, bequest or otherwise may solicit funds to be used in carrying out the purposes of sections 286.200 to 286.210". Accordingly, the Council's newly formed Finance and Development Committee is exploring various options to utilize existing resources, as well as seeking new resources to expand operational capacity.

## Council Events 2005

There were many exciting and noteworthy events in 2005 for the Governor's Council on Disability and one very sad occurrence.

- Eleven new Council members were appointed by Governor Matt Blunt. Dan Card, Chair, was appointed by Governor Matt Blunt on April 19, 2005. He was then confirmed on by the Missouri State Senate on April 28, 2005.
- Council members Dan Card, Kathleen Fagin, Matthew Hughes, Sarah Olson, and Molly Tallarico were sworn in on May 26, 2005 by Missouri Supreme Court judge Richard Teitelman. Judge Teitelman, who is legally blind, is the first person with a disability on the Missouri Supreme Court. There were four other Supreme Court justices at the swearing in, lending their support to the Council.
- Judge Mary Rhodes Russell administered the Oath of Office to Council member Donna Pavlick at the June 24, 2005 Council meeting. Judge William Ray Price later administered the oath to Council members Susan Orton, Edward Duff, and Mike Esser at the October 21, 2005 Council meeting.
- The Council amended the by-laws. The most significant change created an executive committee, which enables the Council to take action between the regularly scheduled quarterly meetings. This change allows the Council to be more proactive. The election of officers took place at the December 2, 2005 Council meeting. The Executive Committee consists of chair Dan Card, Joe Colagiovanni (Vice-Chair for Finance and Development), and Kathleen Fagin (Vice-Chair for Programs and Operations). The three at-large members elected were Karen Benson, Edward Duff, and Mary Ellen Jenison.
- The Committees, per the newly adopted by-laws, have been restructured. The current committees include: Executive, Advocacy (Mary Ellen Jenson): Legislative subcommittee (Karen Benson and Molly Tallarico – co-chairs) and Programs subcommittee (Sarah Olson – chair), Finance/Development (Joe Colagiovanni – chair), Personnel (Donna Pavlick – chair), and Strategic Planning (Kathleen Fagin – chair).
- The Strategic Planning committee has drafted a 2008 vision, and the goals and strategic initiatives to achieve the vision. The plan is expected to be finalized in the next quarter.
- The Legislative committee is considering a proposed resolution that addresses environmentally caused disabilities such as asthma and chemical sensitivity disabilities. New Council member Dr. Hani Soudah developed a white paper as a response to this inquiry.
- The Legislative and Advocacy Committee met three times to discuss legislative priorities and review over 200 responses to a legislative priority survey from people with disabilities, family members, and agencies around the state.
- There was a special Council meeting held on July 20, 2005 to commemorate the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Governor



Matt Blunt gave the keynote address and also provided a proclamation extolling the virtues of the ADA.

- The Governor's Council on Disability developed many new partnerships among the state departments this past year. The "state department liaisons" are encouraged to attend meetings and provide input. We partnered with the Department of Public Safety on a disabled parking "sting" operation this past summer at several state office building locations. There were no "tickets" given out, but many state employees were found to be driving with illegal, expired or no disabled license plates or placards. These individuals were warned and given materials that explain the new disabled parking law.
- Council member Donna Lange of Sedalia passed away on December 14, 2005 after a long battle with multiple sclerosis and myasthenia gravis. She was first appointed to the Council June 5, 2003 and attended all meetings but one. She provided valuable input from the perspective of the user of statewide disability services. She was also very instrumental on the board of West Central Independent Living Solutions in Warrensburg. She will be missed.

## Accomplishments

### Technical Assistance

The Governor's Council on Disability provides disability-related technical assistance to individuals, businesses, governmental and agency representatives from all over the state, and occasionally from other states, by phone, letter, or e-mail. Most contacts were from individuals in need of resources in order to live more independently. Referrals were made to Centers for Independent Living, state and federal agencies, and other non-profits, including faith-based groups and community action agencies. In some instances, referrals were made to a business or for-profit entity. The Council also worked with a number of state legislators to provide solutions to individuals' problems and issues.

In this past year, the Council received a substantial number of calls concerning funding for health care assistance, utility assistance, and home modifications. Other common inquiries included information on disability statistics, how to more effectively find employment, and questions about potential discrimination on the job. Overall, the Council assisted more than 600 different callers with more than 100 types of inquiries.

## Presentations

The Governor's Council on Disability provides educational programs on disability rights and disability awareness to any group or organization requesting such information. Educational programs are specifically tailored to the individual or group to ensure effectiveness. During calendar year 2005, Council staff developed and presented 40 programs to 2,613 interested individuals around the state.

## Awards

The Governor's Council on Disability sponsors the Annual Inclusion Awards and Poster and Journalism Contests each year.

## Annual Inclusion Awards

The Annual Inclusion Awards recognize and honor individuals, groups, organizations and businesses for their successful inclusion of people with disabilities in the areas of employment, education, parenting and community. The Council's Programs Subcommittee selected the winners of the inclusion awards, who were nominated by individuals or organizations in their communities.

The awards are presented to the individual/group in their own community so that the local community can participate in this exciting event.

The 2005 Inclusion Awards winners were:

**Bob Aldridge Advocate of the Year** – Ms. Doris Weber, Life Care Planning

Ms. Weber has helped countless families plan for the future of their children with disabilities when the family members are no longer able to care for them. She assisted families with financial planning, advocating, and accessing services. She developed a training program for agencies and individuals to help them understand the Medicare Prescription Drug Act. Ms. Weber collaborates with many agencies in the community, such as Kansas City Regional Center and Jackson County Board of Services for the Developmentally Disabled.

**Educator of the Year** – Ms. Lisa Finch, Teacher, Hillsboro High School

Ms. Finch is a choral music teacher who started including students with disabilities in her choir class. She prepared the class for the inclusion and made special accommodations for the students to help them participate successfully. Her efforts have had a huge impact on the students.

**Employer of the Year** – Global Products, Inc.

Ms. Rebecca Herwick, President and CEO, received the award for Employer of the Year for integrating people with disabilities into her organization by providing permanent work opportunities. Ms. Herwick also donates material for prevocational activities, performs work evaluations for program participants at Global Products, Inc., and delivers job material to The Center for Head Injury Services in St. Louis to create paid work experience for trainees.

**The Excellence in Universal Design and Technology Award** – City of Chesterfield

The City of Chesterfield received this award for the “Catch-22 Miracle Field”, an adaptive and accessible baseball field for children of all ages and capabilities. The ball field features a custom designed, synthetic turf field, which accommodates wheelchairs and other assistive devices, while helping to prevent injuries. This facility promotes a barrier-free design, equal opportunity, inclusion, and a sense of community. It removes the barriers, which prevent children with disabilities from playing on conventional baseball fields, and lets them experience the joy of America's favorite pastime.

## Poster and Journalism Contests

The Poster and Journalism Contests reward excellence in art and journalism while increasing disability awareness among Missouri's youth. Both contests are open to middle and high school students grades 7 through 12. Information about the contests is distributed statewide to schools and local organizations. More than 150 essays and posters were submitted in the contests in 2005. The first, second, and third place posters were displayed at the luncheon. The winners, selected by the Council's Programs Subcommittee, received savings bonds of \$250, \$500 and \$1,000 respectively. Several businesses donated items that were used as “door” prizes for the non-winning entrants. The winners for the 2005 Poster and Journalism Contests were:

### Poster Contest

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

Jenny Woods  
Westran High School  
Huntsville, MO

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

Kelsey Bishop  
Spokane High School  
Spokane, MO

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

Cazy Vaughn  
Halfway High School  
Halfway, MO

### Journalism Contest

**1<sup>st</sup> Place**

Lee Morehouse  
Winnetonka High School  
Kansas City, MO

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place**

Lindsey Parson  
Bode Middle School  
St. Joseph, MO

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

Julie Williams  
Brookfield R3 High School  
Brookfield, MO

## Publications

The Governor's Council on Disability publishes a variety of information, including the *Directory of Resources for Missourians with Disabilities*. In 2005, over 125 printed copies were requested by individuals and agencies, while many more were directed to our website for the online version. The online *Directory* is user-friendly and allows each user to search by category. It is also more cost efficient, saving the Council in printing and shipping costs.

During the legislative session a weekly update, *Legislative Update*, was distributed to keep concerned individuals up-to-date on legislation that potentially impacts individuals with disabilities. Over 900 individuals received the publication via email and the regular mail system.

The Governor's Council on Disability also disseminated a variety of other publications, including the *Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines*, the *Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Questions and Answer* booklets, *Disaster Preparedness for Persons with Disabilities*, and *Missouri State Capitol Access Guide*.

## Legislative Education Project

During the 2005 legislative session, over 130 individuals attended a three-day training program, known as the **Legislative Education Project** or LEP, held weekly Tuesday through Thursday at the state capitol during the 2005 legislative session. Participants arrived on Tuesday morning and were given an overview of the legislative process and a list of bills that would have an impact on individuals with disabilities. Participants were then encouraged to visit with senators and representatives and their staffs to discuss their concerns and voice their opinions. Attendees were also strongly encouraged to attend any hearings that took place while they were in Jefferson City. Individuals left Jefferson City on Thursday of the week with a new confidence in getting their voice heard both in Jefferson City and back in their home districts.

## **Missouri Business Leadership Network**

The Business Leadership Network (BLN) sponsored two major events last year. The first was the Spring Event held at Edward Jones with Debra Yost presenting tactics on how employers can be proactive in hiring people with disabilities.

The Fall Event was held at Harrah's to celebrate Disability Employment Month and Disability Mentoring Day. Several St. Louis employers spoke about their experiences in hiring people with disabilities. Among the speakers were representatives from St. Luke's Hospital, US Bank, Edward Jones, and Harrah's.

A new website with current employment information for employers and employees with disabilities was created and can be accessed at [www.mobln-gateway.org](http://www.mobln-gateway.org)

Three new employers in the St. Louis area, Brown Shoe Company, May Company (Federated Holding), and Quest Diagnostics, have joined the BLN. The recruitment for employers continues.

## **Missouri Youth Leadership Forum**

The 2005 Missouri Youth Leadership Forum (MYLF) was held at the University of Missouri in Columbia. Fourteen student-delegates took part in the four-day event, which is a unique career leadership-training program for high school juniors and seniors with disabilities. By serving as delegates from their communities, young people with disabilities cultivated leadership, citizenship, and social skills. Activities included speakers, small group discussions, assistive technology demonstrations, career exploration, mentoring luncheon, and a day in Jefferson City to meet with legislators.

The 2006 MYLF will be held in Columbia from July 23-26, 2006. In addition to the Governor's Council on Disability, the Missouri Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities and the Independent Living Resource Center, Inc. are helping to organize the 2006 event.

## Lunch & Learn Workshops

The Governor's Council on Disability began this new program in 2005. The Council sponsored four Lunch & Learn workshops to give audience members, primarily state employees, information about health and disability issues that directly affect their lives. The attendees are encouraged to bring their lunches while they listen to the lunch-hour presentations. Over 120 individuals attended the following presentations:

- January 28, 2005  
Doris Weber, Executive Director, Life Care Planning and 2005 Bob Aldridge Advocate of the Year award winner, spoke on **"Financial Planning for Older Adults with Disabilities"** at the Harry S Truman Building, Jefferson City
- February 25, 2005 and October 7, 2005  
Dr. Tipu Sultan, MD, presented **"Anti-Aging: It's Your Choice"** at the Harry S Truman Building, Jefferson City in February and at the Wainwright Office Building, St. Louis in October.
- October 26, 2005  
Wayne Girdner, Certified Hypnotherapist, presented **"It's Not About How Much You Eat; It's About How Much You Want to Eat: Learn to Change Your Want"** at the Harry S Truman Building, Jefferson City



## Boards and Commissions

As part of the advisory capacity of Governor's Council on Disability's function, staff and council members serve on a variety of boards and commissions to promote opportunities in all aspects of life, including employment, transportation, recreation and housing. The following is a list of those boards and committees in which staff and council members served in calendar year 2005.

Accessible Housing Consortium, St. Louis  
American Association of People with Disabilities, Kansas City  
American Council of the Blind, St. Louis  
Blind Literacy Task Force, Jefferson City  
Boone County Family Resources, Boone County  
Brain Injury Association of Missouri, St. Louis  
Cardinals Access Committee, St. Louis  
Central Missouri Disability Task Force, Columbia  
Central Missouri United Way, Jefferson City  
Children's Learning Center, Osage Beach  
Clay and Platte County Parks, Trails and Greenways Board of Directors, Kansas City  
Coalition for Independence, Kansas City  
Columbia League of Women Voters – Health Committee, Columbia  
Commission on the Courts of the Disabled  
Community Rehabilitation Programs in Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska, Columbia  
Concrete Change-Accessible Housing, Osage Beach  
Council of State Directors of Vocational Rehabilitation, Columbia  
Disability Policy Congress, Jefferson City  
Down Syndrome Association of Mid-Missouri, Columbia  
Early Childhood Comprehensive System Grant Planning Committee  
Gateway Chapter, Paralyzed Veterans Association, St. Louis  
Governor's Council on AIDS, Jefferson City  
Heartland Productive Coalition, Kansas City  
Heritage Trail and River Walk, Kansas City  
Independent Living Resource Center, Jefferson City  
Informed Choice Training Workgroup, Jefferson City  
Kansas City Coalition Emergency and Disaster Response Board of Directors,  
Kansas City  
Kansas City Transportation Authority, Kansas City  
LEAP Project, St. Louis  
Learning Disabilities Association of America, Kansas City  
Learning Disabilities Association of Missouri, Kansas City  
Lincoln University 504/ADA Committee, Jefferson City  
Maryville University – Rehabilitation Counseling Program Advisory Committee,  
St. Louis  
Mayor's Committee on Disability, Kansas City  
MDA Awareness Task Force, Kansas City

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METRO Advisory Committee, St. Louis  
Metro Bi State Advisory Committee, St. Louis  
Minds Eye Information Services, St. Louis  
Missouri Bar Association and Continuing Legal Education Committee, statewide  
Missouri Council of the Blind, St. Louis  
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Blind Task Force,  
St. Louis  
Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Special Education  
Advisory Panel, St. Louis  
Missouri Institute on Human Development Steering Board, Statewide  
Missouri Parent's Act, Jefferson City  
Missouri Ticket to Work Coalition, Jefferson City  
Missouri Training and Employment Council, Jefferson City Governor's appointee  
Missouri-Kansas Council for Learning Disabilities, Kansas City  
MOTASH, St. Louis  
MS Institute, Columbia  
MS Society, St. Louis  
NAMI National Consumer Council, Statewide  
National Council on Independent Living, Mt. Vernon  
National Council on Rehabilitation Education, Columbia  
National Disability Mentoring Day Local Committee, Kansas City  
National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research, Columbia  
National Summer Institute, Kansas City  
Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City  
North Kansas City School District Vocational Carpentry Advisory Board, Kansas City  
Olmstead Stakeholders Group, Jefferson City, St. Louis  
Personal Independence Commission Community Education Workgroup, Jefferson City  
Rehabilitation Services Administration, Columbia  
Share-A-Fare (Paratransit), Kansas City  
Southwest Regional Advisory Council for the MO Department of Mental Health  
Special Needs Population Task Force, Mt. Vernon  
St. Louis County Circuit Court ADA Committee, St. Louis  
St. Louis County Commission on Disabilities, St. Louis  
St. Louis Transitional Council, St. Louis  
Starkloff Leadership Forum, St. Louis  
State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies, Columbia  
Statewide Emergency Management Planning Teams, Statewide  
Statewide Independent Living Council, Jefferson City  
Taskforce on Fair Transportation, St. Louis  
Tiger Pilots, Columbia  
Universal Design Housing Network, Kansas City  
University of Missouri Extension Council, Osage Beach  
University of Missouri-Kansas City Advisory Committee, Kansas City  
VSA, St. Louis  
West-Central Independent Living Solutions, Warrensburg

## Legislation

The Governor's Council on Disability will continue to advocate for people with disabilities in the 2006 legislative session.

- The Legislative Subcommittee is examining pre-filed bills that relate to disability and is analyzing their impact on the disability community.
- The Council is using the results of a 2005 legislative survey as a basis for pursuing legislative issues in the upcoming 2006 session.
- The Governor's Council on Disability and the Statewide Independent Living Council will continue to co-sponsor the Legislative Education Project (LEP).

## Personal Independence Commission

The Personal Independence Commission (PIC) completed its fourth year of work. As established by Executive Order 01-08, the PIC is charged with advising the Governor on necessary policy and program changes to assure that Missourians of all ages and disabilities have access to a range of community support services. The PIC includes individuals with disabilities, family members of people with disabilities, senior citizens, advocacy groups, the Lieutenant Governor, four members of the General Assembly and representatives from the Departments of Social Services, Mental Health, Health and Senior Services and Elementary and Secondary Education.

The staff of the Governor's Council on Disability continued to provide technical and staff support to the activities of the PIC. In addition, our tasks this year focused on implementing the Special Projects Team Action Plan in the areas of common application/assessment information, transition from institutions, assuring community options, and the Real Choice Systems Change grant.

### **Proposed 2006 PIC Commission Meeting Dates**

January 9, 2006  
April 17, 2006  
July 10, 2006  
October 16, 2006

For more information, please visit the Personal Independence Commission website at [www.gcd.oa.mo.gov/PIC/pic.shtml](http://www.gcd.oa.mo.gov/PIC/pic.shtml).

## **2006 Meeting and Event Dates**

### **Governor's Council on Disability Council Meeting Dates**

January 20, 2006

April 28, 2006

July 21, 2006

October 20, 2006

### **Missouri Youth Leadership Forum University of Missouri-Columbia**

July 23-26, 2006